



Army Corps of Engineers – Francis E Walter 2005 Plan Review & 2006 Flow Management Plan Questions, Comments and Recommendations

The Following is a list of questions, comments and recommendations that have been submitted by the Lehigh Coldwater Fishery Alliance for discussion at the 2006 Flow Management Plan planning meeting with representatives from the Army Corps, DRBC, PA DCNR and PFBC.

Fishery Improvement Comments/Recommendations-

- 1) Begin filling reservoir at end of March to store the coldest water possible.
- 2) Continue to use By-pass gates to fullest extent.
- 3) Attempt to meet 18.5 C (65 Deg F) water temperature release from FEW as allowable.
 - When water release temperature begins to exceed 18.5C, begin releasing water from flood gates to regulate water temperature.
- 4) Since pool elevation will be increased, increase minimum target release to 300 cfs.

Water Release Comments & Questions-

1) Continue attempts to meet 22 days of whitewater releases at 750 cfs with release dates to commence in mid-May. Release and non-release weekends should alternate so that fisherman may access the river as releases of water at this level do not constitute favorable conditions for wading the river.

2) How will Corps release water if lake level rises above 1360 ft elevation?

Recommendation - utilize by-pass gates to fullest potential to draw down lake level as weather conditions warrant. (i.e. – try to keep at a minimum large "Blow Out" releases in order to conserve coldwater pool in reservoir to the extent feasible)

3) Release water during whitewater weekends in a timely manner that will conserve the coldwater pool to the extent possible. Whitewater releases should be decreased in "ramp down" fashion, as feasible, to simulate more natural river flow decreases.



Other Questions

1) What is status of boat ramp construction at the designated location on the Bear Creek arm?

Request - Hold off on any construction until completion of the Study that has recently been sponsored by DCNR/PFBC. Thus until a "safe" pool elevation can be determined so not to restrict future lake elevation.

In closing, on behalf of the LCFA, I want to thank all the agencies for their cooperation and hard work in making this meeting possible and overall willingness to work towards the preservation, protection, and enhancement of the water resources of the Lehigh River.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, which appears to read 'Dean Druckenmiller', is positioned above the printed name.

Dean Druckenmiller, President
Lehigh Coldwater Fishery Alliance
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